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inside

SEARCH ON FOR TOP CITIZEN

Fonthill and District Kinsmen have commenced a search for Pelham's 2009 citizen of the year. Details about the award and past winners can be found in this edition. Information about nominating an upstanding community member is also provided.

See story Page 16

See Inside: **PUPU'S INSERTS** Full Distribution

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MARK TAYTI Staff Photo

Author and ordained minister Stephanie McClellan was signing copies of her book, *Preaching at the Crossroads*, at Pelham Community Church last weekend. Proceeds from the book will go to aid poverty-stricken children in Guatemala. She is shown here signing a book for her niece, Brooke McClellan.

STEPHANIE MCCLELLAN

Faith in new book

MARK TAYTI
PelhamNEWS Staff

Finding inspiration in adversity is nothing new for Rev. Stephanie McClellan.

At 37 years old, she has struggled most of her adult life with rheumatoid arthritis and fibromyalgia.

In the 1980s, she traded in her wheelchair for a modified racing bicycle and started off on a trek across the country.

That is just before she headed out west to attend Regent University and go on to study at the Vancouver School of Theology.

For almost seven years, the Pelham native has provided spiritual leadership to a three-point charge out of Gander, N.L.

See CROSSROADS | Page 2

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■ CROSSROADS

Book to raise \$3G for Safe Passage

FROM PAGE 1

That experience has included three, two-week trips to Guatemala City to work with children that have spent their lives working and living at the city's dump.

Safe Passage, a faith-based organization, supports the poorest at-risk children of families working in the Guatemala City garbage dump. It provides a comprehensive and integrated program that fosters hope, good health, educational achievement, self-sufficiency, self-esteem and confidence.

What started as a program to help 40 children now helps more than 600, McClellan said.

The author returned to her roots at Pelham Community Church last week to hold a book signing and sell a few copies of *Preaching at the Crossroads*. The book is a mix of inspirational sermons and an accounting of the life-changing work of Safe Passage.

Now in its first printing, the self-published book is being sold to raise money for the work being done with the children of Guatemala City. At \$15 a book, McClellan hopes to raise \$3,000.

"All the proceeds of the book will go to Safe Passage," she said.

McClellan hopes the book will broaden people's worldview.

"I would like people to understand how life can be impacted by faith in a practical way," she said.

The trips to Guatemala have challenged her own perceptions.

"The children live in poverty, but they have a joy and richness of spirit that we know nothing about," McClellan said.

She said the trips have been a learning experience. Her belief that ability can come from unlikely places has only been enhanced by the experience.

"There is a lot of storytelling in the book," she said. "Church isn't just Sunday morning. This book is about living out your faith every day."

Copies of the book can be ordered locally by calling 905-892-1161 or by going online to revstephmc@gmail.com.

mtayti@wellandtribune.ca

upfront

■ TEMPERANCEVILLE: A wintry blast from Fonthill's past



WAYNE CAMPBELL Staff photos

The collection of models of buildings that either stood or still stand in Fonthill and other Pelham communities is part of the annual Christmas display in Pelham Peace Park. Temperanceville is an old name for Fonthill. Many of the models were built by Fonthill resident Paul Ryan using old photos and drawings of buildings so of which no longer exist.



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■ HUNTERS: Doug Leavens says his type of sportsmen are misunderstood

In defence of hunting

WAYNE CAMPBELL
PelhamNEWS Staff

Doug Leavens worries about how much some people misunderstand hunting as a sport.

The 68-year-old has been hunting since he began with his father when he was 15. His ire was raised after a story appeared in *The Tribune* about a dead deer found on an Effingham St. pond.

The person who found the deer said she and her husband make noise when they know hunters are in the area of their Effingham St. property. They don't allow hunting on their land and don't think it should be allowed in Pelham.

"They were harassing hunters and admit it. That's against the law — period," said Leavens.

People in Pelham have been charged for doing it, he said.

Hunting is an outdoor sport that should receive the same respect as other sports, such as hiking, cycling and jogging.

"It's the safest outdoor sport probably because of the training required," he said. "To get a licence to use a gun or bow you must pass a course."

"If these people just realize how much it costs," he said. "It's \$250 to get licence to carry gun, an outdoor card is \$60 a year. If you want hunt deer that's \$38 for a deer licence to allow one deer in the province."

Once you get a deer, you have to pay for butchering and preparing the meat.

Hunters are involved in conservation through Ducks Unlimited, the Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters and the Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority.

"Don't know what some people think we are," he said. "We just like to go out and enjoy the outdoors and hunting gives us an excuse to do it."

Hunters, he said, pay fees that the Ministry of Natural Resources uses for wildlife and conservation programs.

"It's not all kill, kill, kill," he said.

Leavens hunts about once a week but only took his first deer near the end of the recent bow season.

"I don't take does and fawns," he said, adding he enjoys watching them roam from his hunting tower on his property. "It's quite an experience."

Leavens is concerned about talk of banning hunting and what that can lead to.

It happened with the spring bear hunt in Northern Ontario.

"Now they are complaining there are too many bears," he said. They have become a risk problem.

In Niagara, there is a problem with too many deer especially around Short Hill Provincial Park. They eat crops and become night traffic hazards along roads such as Effingham St., he said. Without a hunting season, the herd could become to large and run risks of inbreeding and disease.

Leavens said there are problem hunters who try to hunt outside the rules. However, other hunters are the first to clamp down because of the negative effect they have on the sport.

"There's lots of them. If we know them, we'll turn them in. If we found someone hunting with a gun we'll turn them in quicker than this person did," he said in reference to the deer shot along Effingham Rd. during the December bow season.

Leavens and his son and daughter own almost 80 hectares of land on Kilman Rd. They hunt on their property and allow some hunters to use it. They also have conservation projects underway such as protection of a wetland area and pond expansion.

"We're calling it Lake Edna in memory of my aunt," he said.

Edna Leavens died five years ago and left thousands of dollars to conservation projects and organizations.

"She used to enjoy coming out here and walking around."



WAYNE CAMPBELL Staff Photo
Doug Leavens stands in front of a hunting and photograph tower on his Kilman Rd. property. Leavens, who has hunted for 55 years, gives permission to specific hunters to use his property.

Leavens has problems with trespassers on his land. He's had 4,500 trees he planted run over by snowmobilers.

Hydro transmission towers run through it along an easement. Snowmobilers, ATV drivers, hikers and even snowboarders assume it is public property because the lines are there. Despite the easement it remains private property.

"I don't mind people using my land, as long as they come to the door to ask," he said.

He has signs around the property to warn about its use as hunting land. There is a risk of using it while hunters are there. He said he dislikes "no trespassing" signs, but has started to use them to warn people off.

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Leavens said there is a clash between people from urban areas who move to Pelham with residents familiar with the rural lifestyle.

"People from the city who move to the country want their cake and (to) eat it too," he said. "They want the solitude and to enjoy wildlife, which is fair, but we as hunters really appreciate wildlife."

"We're not just out there to kill it."

"It comes down to tolerance. We're not bad people, they're not bad people," he said.

"Let us do our thing and we'll let them do their thing."

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PelhamNEWS

Published by PelhamNEWS
 Cogeco Media Publishing Inc.
 228 East Main St., Welland, ON L3B 9P5
 Tel: 905-732-2411 ext. 246 Fax: 905-732-3660
 Circulation: 1-866-318-5062
 e-mail: pelhamnews@wellandribune.ca
 advertising: info@wellandribune.ca
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perspective



Wayne Campbell
 EDITOR

Public meetings

If you want to get a good look at issues facing your town, this is the month to do it. January is packed with public meetings.

You can watch some in the comfort of Pelham Fire Station No. 1. Work is expected to begin on an addition to the Pelham town hall in mid January. A crew will start to extend the council chambers northward eliminating an exit driveway from the rear parking lot.

On Monday, the town will hold a public meeting in the current council chambers to hear a rezoning application for a property on Welland Rd. in Fenwick. The town wants to use the property for a new Fenwick fire hall to replace Pelham Fire Station No. 2 and its parking lot.

Following the public meeting, council will hold a special council meeting to apply for a federal infrastructure grant for downtown Fenwick. Deadline for the application is Monday, Jan. 18. That's the date of town council's next regular meeting.

The council meeting will probably be held at the Fonthill fire hall on Regional Rd. 20. It's expected to get the council year rolling.

Now is the time to pay attention. This is an election year with the civic vote scheduled for late October.

The next day on Tuesday, Jan. 19, council will hold a public meeting to consider a Community Improvement Plan (CIP) for downtown Fonthill and downtown Fenwick.

The proposed CIP allows for a variety of financial grants and loans intended to assist registered owners and tenants of land and buildings within the Community Improvement Areas in rehabilitating their properties," the town says in its notice.

comment

■ COUNCIL: Downtown Fenwick



A Community Improvement Plan that will affect both downtown Fenwick and Fonthill will be the subject of a public meeting at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, Jan. 19, at Pelham Fire Station No. 1 in Fonthill. Fenwick may also be part of an application for the most recent federal infrastructure funding to be made by town council at a special meeting on Monday.

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Letter to the editor

Hunters support conservation

I am writing in response to the person who had the experience of seeing a dead deer on Effingham St. in Pelham.

I have great respect for your views relating to this incident, however, as a land owner in the area, and hunter of 55 years, I have a different and equally valid perspective.

If people would only take the time and educate themselves about the contributions hunters make to conserve our wildlife and natural habitats, they may be viewed differently than they are depicted in the article that prompted this response.

These very hunters and anglers through various organizations such as Ducks Unlimited Canada and the Ontario Federation of Hunters and Anglers protect and enhance not only the wild animal populations but wetlands and forests for our mutual enjoyment and the wellbeing of our wildlife.

DUC in 2009 secured 6,030,055 acres of habitat from loss and/or improvement projects. Responsible hunters, anglers and nature enthusiasts recognize more is needed and a continued effort is required.

Who will continue to support such initiatives?

You guessed it — hunters and the many others that have worked hard on these projects to date. Hunting, if you are not aware, is one of the safest outdoor activities people enjoy. As a hunter, I ask that you give us the same respect that you give a jogger, cyclist, children playing or people walking their pets.

Further, please understand, responsible hunters make every effort to educate themselves about our wildlife, safe and humane practices and to recover harvested animals. It is illegal for anyone to interfere or disrupt any person who is legally hunting game — another point I and many others would like communicated.

Please do not paint all those who hunt with the same brush — some are not "hunters."

We have great respect for your rights and would not demean them in any way. We do realize the 23 acres mentioned in the article I am responding to is needed for the preservation of our wildlife; we are all for responsible conservation.

However, remember hunters have a voice that will be heard and our right to hunt will not and must not be jeopardized.

Douglas E. Leavens
 Pelham

Capital budget affects Pelham

Regional council passed the 2010 capital budget in December.

Of the proposed budget, many dollars will be spent in Pelham or on Hwy. 20 in Pelham and Thorold.

Passing the capital budget so early provides opportunities for lower tender prices and early starts to construction so that projects will be completed on time or ahead of schedule.



Brian Baty
 REGIONAL VICE PRESIDENT

The work on Hwy. 20 last year was evidence of the benefit of early starts to the tendering process.

Phase 1 of Hwy. 20 was completed ahead of schedule last year at a price of \$3.5 million, with a total budget of \$5.5 million. Phase 2 will see the completion of Hwy. 20 from Gattacat Rd. to Hwy. 406. Work will commence in May/June 2010 and conclude November/December 2011 pending 2011 capital budget approval.

The estimated construction cost will be \$4 million, with a total cost of \$5.5 million.

Phase 3 will see the section between Rice Rd. and Station St. completed between May/June 2011 and November/December 2011 pending approval of the 2011 capital budget. The estimated cost is \$2.5 million for construction and a total cost of \$4 million.

Phase 4 will include the section from Haist St. to Lookout St., with preliminary and detailed design work to begin this year and construction in 2011 or later pending 2011 capital budget approval.

The preliminary estimated cost is between \$2.5 million and \$3 million. Repaving of Hwy. 20 from Pelham St. to Haist St. was on a former capital project list but is now absent. Inquiries will be made at the next meeting of the public works committee to determine when work can be undertaken to smooth out the several bumps on the hill that cause excessive noise from passing trucks.

Also approved is the replacement of River Rd. Bridge between Pelham and Watford, which will be tendered this month for a construction project from March to November 2010. The estimated construction cost is \$3.4 million, with a total project cost of \$5 million.

There is a planned realignment of River Rd. north of the Welland River from Effingham St. to O'Reilly Rd. but this phase is on hold due to archaeological assessments.

See BATY | Page 5

Pelham real estate 2009: The year that was

As we enter the starting days of 2010, I once again find myself contemplating the incredible difference a year can make.

Last year's trepidation and lack of consumer confidence have been replaced by a resounding spirit of resiliency.

During the opening months of 2009, a deep freeze descended upon Pelham and extended into our local real estate market. Sales activity continued to retract as last quarter MTS unit sales resulted dropping 32.5% since 2008 levels.

The market situation that developed was an elaborate game of cat and mouse with buyers waiting for the sellers to offer them the bait of price reductions while sellers held their breath anticipating improved market conditions. Many homeowners simply took their properties off the market and waited the storm to pass.

By April, the early spring thaw in Pelham brought with it



tentative signs of improvement in the local market. Although there were fewer sales happening, the first quarter 12-month average sale price of \$296,804 had actually edged up slightly above the 2008 year end result of \$295,179. It was the first time since the 2007 year end that the quarterly average price in Pelham had not declined, suggesting that housing prices had finally stabilized.

Resale housing sales results in Pelham began to steadily improve throughout the second quarter and during the month of July, 22 homes were sold, representing a 29% increase over 2008 levels and only one unit short of the record of 23 sales recorded in July during the 2007 peak market year.

Total year to date sales in

Pelham began to surpass 2008 levels during the month of August, with the September year-to-date figure of 171 units representing a 5.6% increase over the total of 156 recorded in 2008. In comparison, third quarter resale housing sales for the Niagara region increased by an average of 5.6% while year-to-date unit sales lagged 7.6% behind 2008 figures.

By the close of the year, residential resale home sales in Pelham had increased 18% over the total volume of units sold in 2008 – the highest percentage improvement achieved in Niagara.

During 2009 there were 5,083 unit sales recorded in Niagara – just 1.3% shy of the 2008 total of 5,131. Across the peninsula there is a feeling of cautious optimism combined with a collective sigh of relief.

Cathy Berkhout-Bosse, H.B.A., is a local real estate broker and writer. You may read past columns at www.berkhoutbosse.com/blog

■ PERSPECTIVE

Opportunity for a first hand look at issues

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5

Anyone may make a presentation at the meeting especially if you want to be involved in any Ontario Municipal Board appeal.

You can get details on the

■ BATY

Tax rates on agenda

FROM PAGE 4

The Stage 3 assessment is estimated at between \$200,000 and \$500,000 for Stage 4.

Lastly, \$533,000 has been earmarked to match possible provincial and/or federal funds for improvements to Niagara Central Airport in Pelham.

Regional council reconvenes this month to finalize the 2010 operating budget, tax rates and sewer/water rates.

While the police operating budget exceeded our guidance of 3% by an additional 1.5%, council still desires to maintain the overall regional tax and rate increases below the rate of inflation.

Wishing all a healthy and happy 2010.

Brian Baty is a Niagara regional councillor for Pelham.
brian.baty@niagaregion.ca

proposals at town hall during regular office hours.

One of the liveliest public meetings could be on Thursday, Jan. 28. A public workout will be held at the fire station from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. to look at a recreation centre for Pelham.

Town council has had a committee studying a recreation centre idea for more than a year.

So here's your chance to study the issues first: hand at these public meetings.

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WAYNE CAMPBELL Staff Photo

Dr. Jim Jeffs, seated, will take it a little easier in the new year reducing his workload to two days a week while his associate Dr. Andrew Marando will move full-time into the operation of the Fonthill office on Monday, Jan. 4.

■ DENTAL CARE: Dr. Andrew Marando stepping up to regular role

After 40 years of dentistry, Jim Jeffs is slowing things down

WAYNE CAMPBELL
PelhamNEWS Staff

After 40 years of bending over a dental chair for the better part of each week, Dr. Jim Jeffs is looking forward to cycling and hunting more often.

He has turned himself into a part-timer by switching roles with his associate, Dr. Andrew Marando.

Jeffs, 65, will work two days a week at his Pelham St. office while Marando, 32, will take over the lead role.

Jeffs said it was time for a change for both physical and business reasons.

"Dentistry is a terrible job for good posture. Not many dentists don't have back problems."

His practice of about 2,500 call-back patients is healthy. But he said to keep it so, a younger dentist is needed who will draw patients for the future.

Jeffs began his Pelham practice in May 1969 when he was 24, after graduating from University of Toronto.

Over a period of 40 years, he has treated patients, their children and now their grandchildren.

For five and a half years Marando has worked for Jeffs as an associate, as well as for other dentists.

Jeffs said the two work well together: "I don't want to quit totally and Andrew wants someone to stick around."

There will be some changes to the office. Marando added an Internet connection and computer desk to the dentists' shared office area, put a play area for children in the waiting room, and will hang a flat-screen TV in there for waiting patients.

Marando said he's learned a lot from Jeffs: "He truly cares

about his patients. It's not just a business operation. He's a very compassionate person."

Jeffs said he can think about the young figure skater whose teeth are damaged in a fall. She's crying. Her parents are upset. Yet after an hour or so of work he can send them home smiling.

Similarly, there is a man with an infected tooth that requires opening up the infection and letting out the pus.

"The look on his face as the pain is relieved, you always remember," he said. "You have these mental pictures of people sitting in the chair in agony. Then you relieve the pain. I find that very rewarding."

Over his 40 years, Jeffs has seen changes in dentistry. Equipment has become more elaborate and techniques simplified. Attention to potential infection has improved with dentists and staff using gloves

and masks, he said. There has been a steady increase in the cosmetic side of dentistry. From bleaching of teeth to the increased demand for implants, people are thinking about how they look.

Marando said he's noticed more middle-age people are considering cosmetic work such as bridging and bleaching.

The dentists said the strength of their practice is in the staff. Some employees have been there more than 20 years.

"We're like family, you spend more time with them than I do with my wife Sandy," said Jeffs.

Jeffs plans to spend more time with his family. He and Sandy had six children and now have seven grandchildren.

Marando and his wife Shawna have two children Nadia, 3, and Mye, 9 months.

wcampbell@wellandtribune.ca

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■ FONTHILL COFFEE HOUSE REVIEW

Up close with Lindsey Mills

BROWNWYN LANE
For PelhamNEWS

It's hard to believe a whole season of the Fonthill Coffee House had come and gone since music educator, director and performer Lindsey Mills was last month's featured artist at the Fonthill Coffee House.

The emotion drenched *Always and then Forever*, from her CD *Inspired by the Lives of Others*, instantly set the mood with its comfortable ebb and flow.

As a classically trained pianist with a three-octave vocal range, Mills' unrivalled style was evident from the beginning.

From her CD *Music is in the Heart*, the rich melody and poignant lyrics of *Once In A Lifetime* were highlighted by her always mesmerizing piano accompaniment.

Perking things up with *City Side-walkers/Country Sand*, had Mills switching over to her Larrievie six-string Canadian made electric guitar.

Christmas rang true with her richly layered vocals and elegant keyboarding. Lindsey's *Winter Wonderland Dogs*, sung to the tune *Walking in a Winter Wonderland* garnered enthusiastic audience participation.

Throwing in a couple of seasonal numbers, both *Mary's Boy Child* and the always festive *Feliz Navidad*, sent the Christmas Spirit forth.

Norah Jones' *Don't Know Why* brought to the stage two members of the Lindsey Mills Band: Twinky Jade, upright bass, and Allison Fox, lead vocals.

Inviting the remaining two mem-

bers of the band, Karl V and yours truly, Lindsey stayed on the piano and began one of four original numbers from her new CD, *Journey*.

The memorable *Journey*, featuring Lindsey's lead vocals, guitar and harmonica always reminds me of the song *California Dreamin'* — not so much the sound but the distinctiveness of the chorus, verse and blended harmonies and the infectious hooks throughout.

Vocal backed up from the rest of the band, assuring percussion via Fox and Karl V (the Vibra Slap 2 and hand crafted wooden spoons respectively) and some nice harp at the end of each chorus (yours truly again) didn't go amiss either.

Joining The Lindsey Mills Band for the grand finale were: Ed Bertoli, electric guitar/backup vocals; Greg van'tWick, Djembe/backup vocals; Wayne Hockley, Bohdan/backup vocals and Barb Forder, backup vocals.

See REVIEW | Page 9

PelhamNEWS



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Yes! You Can Lose Weight

There has been a lot of media chatter lately, casting doubt on the effectiveness of diet supplements. The truth of the matter is, no supplement on its own can offer you the magic of instant weight loss but... if you are committed to making changes in your diet, lifestyle and getting more active, great things can happen!



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Information is provided for reference only. For specific health issues consult your local natural health practitioner.

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■ REVIEW

Rosemary Cote featured tonight

FROM PAGE 7

The FCH committee members Jim Stephenson, Ann Stephenson, Norman White, Ed Bertoli and Graeme Box presented The Hope Centre of Welland with proceeds derived from donations at the door, the sale of raffle tickets, pizza, coffee and tea and brownies.

The next Fonhill Coffee House is

tonight, featuring Rosemary Cote, at Old Pelham Town Hall, 491 Canboro Rd. at Memorial Dr. Doors open at 7 p.m. and the show starts at 8 p.m. or earlier with a \$3 donation.

For more information please contact Jim Stephenson 905-892-0732 or Graeme Box 905-563-1226 or visit www.myspace.com/fonhillcoffeehouse.

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SILVER STICK: Panthers come up short in regionals



JOHN VESSIOYAN Staff Photo

St. Mary's defender Jeff Griffiths, right, tries to block a shot from Pelham Panther forward Daniel DiPietro in Silver Stick midgame action.

Pelham teams fail to advance to top games

Pelham NEWS Staff

The Pelham Panthers were again shut out from the finals of the Regional Silver Stick Hockey Tournament.

None of Pelham's teams advanced to their championship games on the final day of the 38-team tournament which wrapped up at Pelham Arena.

Tournament director Alison Danko figures that in 25 years, only about five Pelham teams have made it to the final of the tournament they host.

"We're used to it," Danko said of seeing Pelham teams get eliminated.

The tournament is a challenging one thanks to the calibre of teams that show up. "It's a hard tournament to win," she said.

The lone Pelham squad to make it to the semifinals was the bantam Panthers who fell 4-3 to Dorchester after the host team finished first in its pool.

In the novice final, Trent Randall scored twice while Isaac MacLeod and Shane Hodge each scored once to lead Caledonia to a 4-2 win over Burlington. Ryan Matthews and

Carter Chard scored for Burlington.

In the atom division championship, Justin Zdzulik led the way with a pair of goals as Grimsby beat Lincoln 4-1. Zachary Young-Bryce was the only goal scorer for the Blades.

In the peewee final, the Dorchester Dragons skated past Lincoln 5-3, while Dorchester won its third final of the day by blanking the Dunnville Terriers 3-0 for the bantam championship.

The tournament featured seven teams from south Niagara — five Pelham sides and two teams from Welland.

sports

NOVICE HOCKEY

Tigers make semifinals in Christmas classic tourney

For PelhamNEWS

The Pelham Tigers tallied a record of 3-1 in the Jordan Christmas Hockey Tournament over the holidays.

Pelham in round robin action went undefeated beating the Jordan Canadians 5-2, with goals scored by Nicholas Chambers (2), Brock Pellow (2) and Jeremy Pollard.

Pelham also defeated Jordan Senators 3-1 (Chambers with two and Pellow) and St. Catharines St. Julia's 3-2 (Chambers, Pollard and Pellow).

This qualified the team for the semifinals against St. Catharines St. Mary's.

The Tigers lost a defensive battle 3-1, the lone goal scored by Jake Butler while Tristan Barnhart put in a solid effort in net. The final goal for St. Mary's was scored into an open net.

"The team had demonstrated tremendous execution of defensive strategies and offensive prowess this week," said coach Joel Barnhart.

Said manager John Pellow: "Tournaments have a unique ability of solidifying a team through challenging players athleticism and mental fortitude."

The Pelham Tigers next local league action was scheduled against Thorold.

sportsbrief

TYKES TAKE TO THE ICE

Tim Hortons' Red Dragons faced off against the Dark Blue Dolphins in their first game of the season on Saturday.

Owen Metler was outstanding in goal for the Dragons against the aggressive Dolphins, with the majority of play in the Dragons' zone.

The Dolphins for won the game 7-2. The Dragons never gave up and played hard the whole game.

Scoring for the Dolphins were Brendan Grenville (four goals), Riley Bleich, Tobey Drennan and Owen Dobbie. Dobbie and Bleich scored each notched an assist.

Scoring for the Dragons were Nolan Kileen and Michael Dykstra.

—For PelhamNEWS



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localbrief

NEW BYLAW FOR FIREWORKS

Bylaw enforcement officers including the fire department's fire prevention officer can issue tickets of up to \$240 for violations of the fireworks bylaw.

Each offense could cost the offender \$240 in fines and surcharges, said Pelham fire prevention officer Saskia

Holditch.

The November 2010 bylaw covers the use, storage and selling of fireworks.

"It has been and it still is possible to lay charges for infractions of this by-law, which would cost the offender a lot more money and possibly jail time," Holditch said.

Fireworks come in different classes.

The low-hazard or "consumer" fireworks can be sold to and set off by the general public. The other type, high-hazard or "display" fireworks, are larger and may only be set off by a certified fireworks technician, said Holditch in a news release.

To hold a fireworks display, to sell

either class of fireworks to the public, or to store over 10 kg of fireworks anywhere within the town, certain conditions have to be met and a permit has to be acquired from Pelham Fire Department.

The general public is only allowed to set off low-hazard fireworks on Victoria Day, Canada Day and July 4th and three

days before each of these dates. They must be far enough away from dangerous or sensitive areas such as gas stations, hospitals or woodlands.

"The Pelham Fire Department would like to remind the everyone to follow the manufacturer's instructions and take the necessary safety precautions when setting off fireworks," she said.

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PelhamNEWS

AROUND TOWN

FRIDAY, JAN. 8

FONTHILL COFFEE HOUSE at Old Pelham Town Hall, 491 Canboro Rd. at Memorial Dr., opens 7 p.m. with music starting at 8 p.m. Donation admission of \$3. The featured artist is Rosemary Cote. Old Pelham Town Hall is and is wheelchair accessible. For more information please contact: Jim Stephenson at 905-892-0732 or Graeme Cox at 905-563-1226 or go to www.myspace.com/fonthillcoffeehouse.

MONDAY, JAN. 11

WATERCOLOUR CLASSES start at Beverly Sneath Art

Studio 6 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. at 1341 Effingham St., Ridgeville. For day or evening class information, call 905-892-5868 or e-mail bevsneath@yahoo.ca.

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 13

WELLAND CAMERA CLUB

hosts its first meeting of the year at Wesley United Church, 244 First Ave. N. at 7:30 p.m. View members' mini shows and learn a new hobby or a thing or two about an old one. Guests welcome. For information, contact Larry Lanigan at 905-892-4699.



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DIGITAL PHOTOGRAPHY

Award-winning nature photographer Peter Ferguson shares some of his secrets. Cost is \$5 per session. Please register ahead. Introduction to Photoshop for Digital Photography: learn how you can enhance your photos with this powerful tool. Saturday, Jan. 9, 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. Creative Slide Shows: See how easy it can be to showcase your work by adding music and effects for an impressive multimedia show. Sat-

urday, Jan. 16, 1 p.m. to 3 p.m.

RETURN TO ALGONQUIN

Award-winning nature photographer Peter Ferguson returns to the Pelham library with a new presentation of vibrant scenes and a rare look at the wildlife in Algonquin Park. Monday, Jan. 11, at 7:30 p.m. Cost is \$2.50. Please register ahead.

FAMILY LITERACY EVENING: SEUSS ON THE LOOSE

Join us for another fabulous family evening at the Pelham Public Library as we celebrate Dr. Seuss. You need to wear your Dr. Seuss-themed clothing. Yes you do. Serving: Hoop-Soup-Snoop Group Potato Soup, Noodle-Eating-Poodle Noodles, River of Nobsk Corn-off-the-Cobsk, and Circus McGurkus Pink Lemonade. Friday, Jan. 22 at 6 p.m. Cost is \$5 per family. An adult must attend.

"CRIME TIME" CONTINUES AT PELHAM PUBLIC LIBRARY
Toronto author Jill Edmondson reads from her debut novel Blood and Groom. The reading and book-signing event takes place at the Fonthill branch on Tuesday, Jan. 26, at 7 p.m. Edmondson founded Danforth Whodunnits — a book club for mystery lovers — in 2004. There was so much interest in a crime fiction book club that she founded a second mystery book club — Metro Mysteries — a year later. Edmondson is a professor at George Brown College in Toronto. She teaches essay writing and business communications in the faculty of hospitality. She has also taught writing at Seneca College, University of Toronto and the Ted de Montreux (Torreón, Mexico).

For more information on these upcoming events please contact Pelham Public Library at 905-892-6443.

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■ Fonthill Kinsmen: Their search is on

In search of Peham's citizen of the year

PelhamNEWS Staff

If you know of someone who makes outstanding voluntary contributions to the community here is your chance to recognize them.

Fonthill and District Kinsmen Club has begun to take nominations for its 2009 Pelham Citizen of the Year.

They're looking for people who live or work in Pelham," he said.

Nominations should include the name of the person and short outline explaining what they have done.

Deadline for nominations is Jan. 31.

They should be sent to the Fonthill and District Kinsmen, Box 906, Fonthill, Ont. L8B 1B3.

This is the 12th year the Kinsmen have honoured outstanding volunteers.

"It has done well," said

Twomey. "It may be especially needed now. It can provide a light at the end of the tunnel at a time of negativity."

Twomey said the award is a way to give people hope.

Last year, for example, people were surprised to learn all the community contributions made quietly by the winner, Rick Lowes of Country Corner Market, he said.

"Can you imagine if everyone did their small part how things could change," Twomey said.

"People need to have an example," he said. "There is a lesson to be learned if you just persevere."

Lowes won for 2008.

Past winners include Gayle Baljies-Chataway, Paul Ryan, Gerry Berkhot, Catherine Kuehn, Anne Robbins, George Kowalski, Eric Bergenstein, Jale Dilts, Terry Finamore and Carolyn Mullin.

■ localbrief

NEW YEAR TURNS SOUR

Two suspects are sought in connection to a New Year's Eve fight that sent one man to hospital.

On Friday between 1 a.m. and 1:30 a.m., a fight took place amongst a group of males out-

side the 20/20 Bar on Hwy. 20 in Fonthill.

A male in his early 20s was sent to Greater Niagara General Hospital to undergo surgery and is now recovering at home, said a Niagara Regional Police spokesman.

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